

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 249462

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TO AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 249462 SENT LIMA DATED NOV 12.

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: ECUADOR CONSULTATIONS

FOR CIVAIR USDEL:

1. ON NOVEMBER 12 ECUADOREAN EMBASSY CHARGE GABELA, ACCOMPANIED BY COMMERCIAL COUNSELLOR ALMEIDA, CALLED AT DEPT TO CONVEY GOE VIEWS RE RECENT US-ECUADOREAN CIVAIR DEVELOPMENTS. HE MADE FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS: A) REQUESTED REPEAL OF CAB PART 213 ACTION AGAINST ECUATORIANA BEFORE START OF NOVEMBER 18 CONSULTATIONS; B) REITERATED GOE POSITION THAT THREE BRANIFF FREQUENCIES NOW SUSPENDED WERE INITIALLY AUTHORIZED UNDER CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WERE TO BE TEMPORARY. CANCELLATION THUS NOT SUBJECT TO BILATERAL AGREEMENT REQUIREMENT TO CONSULT.

2. ELABORATING ON FIRST POINT GABELA COMPARED ECUATORIANA'S 4 FREQUENCIES WITH BRANIFF'S 16 AND MENTIONED

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PAGE 02 STATE 249462

THAT ECUATORIANA HAD PLANNED TO INCREASE ITS US SERVICE TO

8 FREQUENCIES AS OF NOVEMBER 16. PART 213 ACTION PREVENTS START OF SERVICE UNTIL DECEMBER 4 NECESSITATING REFUNDS ON TICKETS ALREADY SOLD, AND OTHERWISE COMPLICATING AIRLINE'S OPERATIONS. IF PART 213 ACTION IS NOT REPEALED BEFORE NOVEMBER 18 CONSULTATIONS, "TALKS WOULD PROVE TO BE DIFFICULT," SAID GABELA. CONSULTATIONS SHOULD HAVE A

"FAVORABLE AMBIANCE", HE ADDED, BUT IF THE CAB RESTRICTIONS REMAIN IN EFFECT "ATMOSPHERE FOR TALKS WOULD NOT BE FAVORABLE."

3. GABELA WAS TOLD THAT SUBSTANCE OF GOE REPRESENTATION WOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO USDEL, BUT THAT DEPT WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO MODIFY THE BOARD DECISION. HE WAS REMINDED THAT TALKS WERE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN WITHIN A WEEK AND IF OUTSTANDING ISSUES ARE RESOLVED AT THAT TIME, POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT PROPOSED INCREASED CAPACITY COULD BE IMPLEMENTED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 4. REGARDING CUTS IN BRANIFF FREQUENCIES, DEPT NOTED THAT THERE IS APPARENTLY A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IN OUR INTERPRETATIONS OF BILATERAL ON THIS POINT. GOE'S UNILATERAL ACTION IS INCONSISTENT WITH AGREEMENT AND IS BASIS FOR CURRENTLY SCHEDULED CONSULTATIONS.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE USDEL VIEWS ON LIFTING 213 ACTION BEFORE NOVEMBER 18. OUR VIEW IS THAT 213 ACTION SHOULD REMAIN IN FORCE PENDING DEMONSTRATION OF TANGIBLE CONCESSIONS BY GOE. KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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